

October 10, 2021 – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are glad to be gathered with you. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please ask an usher to answer any questions you may have.

The altar flowers are given by Jeff & Helen Livingston in honor of their wedding anniversary.

Special thanks to our Parish Choir and Children's Choir for singing this morning.

Assisting Minister – Sandy Matsen

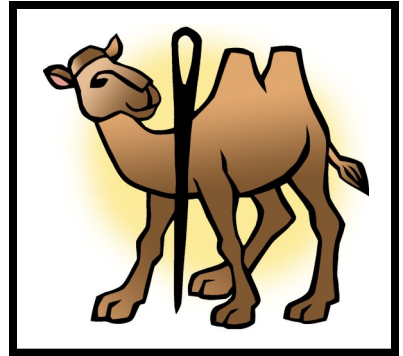
Acolyte – Jade DiCriscio

Greeters – Ted & Elaine Jermansen

Ushers – John Minerowicz and David Wintemute

This morning's hymns:

Entrance Hymn	<i>"Gather Us In"</i>	ELW 532
Hymn of the Day	<i>"Be Thou My Vision"</i>	ELW 793
Closing Hymn	<i>"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"</i>	ELW 551



Give to Zion from your phone! Scan the QR code to be directed to Tithely's electronic giving site.



Please plan to stay after worship today for the Special Meeting of the Congregation, where we will vote on our pastoral candidate, the Rev. Katherine I. Steinly. The Rev. Dean Brown is with us this morning to conduct the congregational meeting and represent the Synod.



We are delighted to present to the congregation this year's candidates for Confirmation: Kaitlyn Berenty, Robert Bryan, Aaron Melick, Kevin Pepe, Lily Rogers, and Reina Schumann. Confirmation Sunday will be at 8:30 a.m. on October 31st.



DISASTER RESPONSE

Thank you to everyone for your donations to Lutheran Disaster Response. We've set a goal of raising \$10,000 and so far we have collected \$1,925. All funds will be matched by our Endowment Fund, so your contribution will go even farther in helping those in need.



All 9th-12th graders and friends are invited to experience the Haunted Red Mill in Clinton on Friday, October 22nd. Please RSVP to Rhonda Rossi no later than Friday, October 15th.



Third quarter contribution statements are available at the back of the church. Please pick up yours today. If you have any questions about your statement please contact our Financial Secretary, John Rustwick, at jrustwick@gmail.com or 908-638-6339. Thank you.



On October 31st, all are invited to attend the

Intergenerational Reformation Celebration

taking place at 9:45 a.m. at the CEB. We will congratulate this year's Confirmands, and enjoy games, food, and fun.

This event is for all ages and we look forward to seeing everyone there!

The rich man who comes to ask Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life is a good man, sincere in his asking. Mark's gospel is alone in saying that Jesus looked on him and loved him. Out of love, not as judgment, Jesus offers him an open door to life: sell all you own and give it to the poor. Our culture bombards us with the message that we will find life by consuming. Our assemblies counter this message with the invitation to find life by divesting for the sake of the other.

First Reading: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

⁶Seek the LORD and live,
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.
⁷Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,
and bring righteousness to the ground!
¹⁰They hate the one who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.
¹¹Therefore because you trample on the poor
and take from them levies of grain,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not live in them;
you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.

¹²For I know how many are your transgressions,
and how great are your sins —
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and push aside the needy in the gate.
¹³Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;
for it is an evil time.
¹⁴Seek good and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.
¹⁵Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:12-16

¹²Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

¹⁴Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Gospel: Mark 10:17-31

¹⁷As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." ²¹Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." ²²When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" ²⁴And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

²⁸Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." ²⁹Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age — houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions — and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."



A Challenge to Our Zion Family — Lutheran Disaster Response

Zion's Social Ministry committee has sponsored a fall collection drive for many years. These collections have been successful due to the generosity of Zion's members and our willingness to put our faith into action. This fall, the Social Ministry committee has decided to collect funds to go to Lutheran Disaster Response.

This week, we are highlighting the needs of communities impacted by the earthquake in Haiti.

Help us meet our goal to raise \$10,000 for Lutheran Disaster Response, which will be matched by our Endowment Fund!

Please, consider giving towards this cause. You may write checks to Zion with "LDR" written in the memo line and (1) place them in the offering plate or (2) deliver them to the office. OR you may give directly to LDR using the link below. We ask that you then share your receipt with our Parish Administrator, so we can match your contribution.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

HAITI CRISIS

In August 2021, a devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck southwest Haiti. Over 1,400 people were killed, and thousands more were injured. Blocked roads are delaying the delivery of vital supplies to hospitals. At least 26,000 homes were damaged or destroyed.

For over two decades, the ELCA has maintained a presence in southern Haiti through support for agricultural and sustainable development work. To continue our engagement with those communities, Lutheran Disaster Response is collaborating with partner organizations in the communities to meet relief needs, including food, nonfood items and temporary shelter. Other areas of support will include psychosocial care, water and sanitation, and creating sustainable livelihoods through agriculture and livestock.

Your gifts will support earthquake survivors. Gifts to "Haiti Crisis" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the earthquake until the response is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support. Give today to support this response and others like it.

